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The humble  
**PETITION**  
OF

The Gentry Ministers and Free-  
holders of the County of YORKE,  
assembled in their County there

Presented to His Majesty the

With His Majesties Speech there  
presenting thereunto.

And His gracious Answer thereunto.

Printed first at York, and Printed at London  
for John Wright, 1643.

THE DUMPLIE  
PETITION

OF

the Gent y Minis and Fre-  
holders of the  
Assembly



Printed at York, and Printed at York  
for the Wright, 1642.

TO THE KINGS  
MOST EXCELLENT  
MAIESTIE.

*Most humbly sheweth,*

**H**ere although the piercing anguish of  
our Souls, proceeding from the gene-  
rall distractions of this Kingdom, be  
eased by the comfort of your Ma-  
iesties Royall presence, and glorious  
confidence in the affections of this County, which  
hath filled our hearts with hopes, and our tongues  
with joy, yet the fellow-feeling of the passionate sor-  
rowes, and heart-breaking apprehensions which  
overwhelms the other parts of this afflicted Kingdom  
doe inforce us (after the humble tender of our lives  
and fortunes, for the safety and assurance of your  
Majesties Royall Person, Crowne, Honour and  
Estate, just Prerogative and Sovereignty, in any ca-  
pacity wherein we may serve you) Majestie accord-  
ing to the Lawes) to follow the Sacrifice of bound-  
den duty, with our earnest Prayers and Petitions,  
which shal not cry in your Princely Ears for help to  
almost-ruined *Ireland*, nor implore your Majesties  
Concurrence for the propagation of the Protestant  
Religion, and suppression of Popery, since your  
Majesties gracious Declaration of your Selfe, in  
those

those particulars, renders it an unpardonable crime to desire further assurance, or addition to your Majesties owne words, Sacred before God and man, but emboldned by your Royall resolution declared, to take away not onely the just feares, but also the jealousies of your loyall subjects, and inforced by that infallible Oracle of Truth, That Kingdome divided cannot stand. We, from the center of every one of our hearts, most earnestly supplicate, That your Majestie (being most interested in the flourishing State and Union of your Dominions, and by long experience in government, best acquainted with prevention of dangers, and remedy of evils) will be graciously pleased to declare such fit means and expedients as may take away all distances and misunderstandings betwixt Your M<sup>tie</sup> & your great Councell to whom we will also adresse our selves for such endeavours, on their parts, as may beget in Your Majestie a confidence in their Councils, & that blessed Union so necessary to this perplexed Kingdom, and most desired by us, and all Your Majesties loving and faithful subjects.

And Your Petitioners shall ever pray for  
 Your Majestie long and prosperous  
 Reigne, &c.

(3)

3. Aprilis, 1642.

His Majesties Speech to the Sheriffe, Gentry, Ministry,  
and Freeholders of the County of Yorke, when they  
presented to Him their Petition.

Master Sheriffe, and Gentlemen;

I Beleeve you expect not a present and particular  
Answer to your Petition, because it is new unto  
me: Onely in generall I must tell you, that I see by  
it, that I am not deceived in the confidence I have in  
the affections of this County to my Person and  
State; and I assure you that I will not deceive your  
confidence which at this time you have declared in  
your Petition, to have in Me: and I am glad to see  
that it is not upon mistaken grounds, as other Peti-  
tions have beene to me since I came to this place:  
concerning which, let me observe unto you, that my  
Answers were to clear those mist kings, for I never  
did goe about to punish or discourage them from  
petitioning to Me in an humble way, though the  
subject did not agree with my sense: albeit within  
the memory of man, people have beene discouraged,  
and threatned to be punished for Petitions.

I observe that your Petition is so modest, that it  
doth not mention any particular for your own good;  
which indeed I expected, as knowing that in some  
particulars you have great reason to doe; and there-  
fore, that you may not fare the worse for your Mo-  
desty, I will put you in mind of three particulars,  
which I conceive to be for the good of this Coun-  
try.

The first is concerning your trained Bands, to reduce them to a lesser number, for which, I confesse to stand engaged by promise to you, which I had performed long since, if I had been put in minde of it: And now I tell you, Shew me but the Way, and (when you shall thinke fit) I shall instantly reduce them to that Number, which I promised you two yeares agoe.

The second is, That which is owing to this County Bille-mony. The truth is for, That for the present I cannot repay it; Onely I will say this, That if all the Water had gon to the right Mill (upon my word) you had been long agoe satisfied in this particular. And so I leave to your discretions which way you will advise, and assist Me to comply with the Engagements to you in this point.

The third is, That for which I was petitioned as I came up the last year, both by the Lord Major and Aldermen of this City, and likewise by divers others of this County, as I went South-ward; And that is, concerning the Court of *Wark*. And first let me tell you, That as yet I know no Legal dissolution of it, for hitherto formally there is nothing come to Me, either directly or indirectly, for the taking of it away: therefore I may say, It is rather shaken in pieces, then dissolved. Now my Desire is, in compliyanee to what I answered the last year unto the severall Petitions delivered to me upon this subject, That you would consult and agree among your selves in what manner you would have the Court established, most to your own contentments, and to the good of all these Northern parts, in such a Legall way, as that it may not  
justly

justly be excepted against; and I assure you, in the word of an honest Man, that you shall not blame me, if you have not full satisfaction in it.

Within a day or two ye shall have particular Answer to your Petition, which shall be such a One as I am confident will give you good satisfaction, and put you into such way, as, I hope, may produce good effects to the good of all this Kingdome.

His Majesties Answer to the aforesaid Petition  
of the Gentry, Ministers, and Freeholders  
of the County of York.

At the Court of York, 7. Aprill 1644.

His Majesty, according to His promise made to you at the delivery of this Petition, hath commanded me to subscribe this His answer.

**I**n the first place, His Majesty, yet, that you, you say concerning the Rent of His Expresses within the Ireland, and the propagation of the good Religion amongst you, within a Division of Popery, is due to show your Confidence in his princely word, wherein He again hath commanded me to assure you, that He will neither deceive your trust, nor wrong Himself so much as not to be very punctuall in performance of the Engagements: He hath already made concerning those particulars, which besides the performance of His Word (which He holds most deer unto him) his own Inclinations naturally induce Him unto. Now concerning the Prayer of your Petition, His Majesty



His Majesty graciously interprets, That your desiring Him  
 to declare further means and expedients for more quieting  
 all Distance and Misunderstandings between His Majesty  
 and His House of Commons is no other wise than to desire the  
 more exacting ground, and the better direction which  
 may so carry your petition in your Addresses to the Parliament  
 for better effect. And therefore His Majesty assures you  
 That not only the best, but the most convenient way may  
 for this good Understanding between His Majesty and  
 His Parliament which He assures you that He no less  
 desires than your selves is That the Parliament will take  
 His Majesties Message of the twentieth of January last into  
 consideration specially, seriously, and effectually; and that  
 the Militia of this Kingdom may be settled by Act of  
 Parliament, according to His Majesties explanation of  
 His Answer concerning the Militia which He made in the  
 Answer He returned to both Houses, upon the Revision  
 presented to Him the 26 of March last. And therefore  
 His Majesty desires you to take these Answers and that  
 Message into your serious Consideration and thereupon to  
 proceed (according to the intimation in your Petition, in  
 your Addresses to the Parliament, as you shall judge fittest  
 for the good of this Kingdom, and the expressions of your  
 Duty and Affection to His Majesties Person and State.

Signed by Master Secretary Nicholas.

FINIS.



